

Last French Government update – December 01

International Travel Restrictions

All arrivals from locations outside the EU must present a PCR or rapid antigen test result no more than 48 hours old at the time of departure for vaccinated individuals and no more than 24 hours old for unvaccinated individuals. Additionally, authorities have extended until Dec. 4 the suspension of flights with Botswana, eSwatini, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, and Zimbabwe over concerns regarding variant strains of COVID-19. From Dec. 4, only French nationals, EU nationals, diplomats, and international transport crews will be permitted to enter France from one of these southern African countries. Permitted travelers will be tested upon arrival in France and required to self-isolate for seven days if they received a negative result and 10 days if the result was positive.

France uses a three-tiered, color-coded system to classify countries based on COVID-19 risk and imposes entry restrictions accordingly. Green countries are those assessed to have the lowest disease risk, with orange countries being considered moderate risk, and red being those with the highest risk.

Travelers from green countries do not need to provide a pressing reason for travel to France; however, unvaccinated travelers arriving from most of these countries must present a negative result from a PCR or antigen test taken no more than 72 hours before departure for France. For travelers from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Romania, Slovenia, and Slovakia, the test must be taken within 24 hours of departure. Travelers may also present a certificate of recovery from COVID-19 between 11 days and sixth months old instead of the test before travel requirement. As of Dec. 1, the green list includes the EU, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Chile, Comoros, Hong Kong, Iceland, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Monaco, New Zealand, Norway, Qatar, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, South Korea, Switzerland, Taiwan, UAE, Uruguay, Vanuatu, and Vatican City.

Unvaccinated arrivals from red countries are required to have pressing grounds for travel, must present a negative result from a COVID-19 PCR or antigen test taken no more than 48 hours before departure for France, and are subject to a COVID-19 test on arrival. Travelers may also present a certificate of recovery from COVID-19 between 11 days and six months old instead of the test before travel requirement. Unvaccinated arrivals must quarantine for 10 days under the supervision of security forces. As of Dec. 1, red countries include Afghanistan, Belarus, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, Pakistan, Russia, Serbia, Suriname, Turkey, and Ukraine.

All other countries are currently classified as orange. Unvaccinated travelers from these countries must present a negative result from a PCR test taken no more than 72 hours before departure for France or a negative result from an antigen test taken no more than 48 hours before departure. Unvaccinated travelers from the UK must present a negative test taken no more than 24 hours before departure. Travelers may also present a certificate of recovery from COVID-19 between 11 days and sixth months old instead of the test before travel requirement. Unvaccinated travelers from orange countries must also have pressing grounds for travel and must self-isolate for seven days on entry. All travelers may be randomly selected to take a COVID-19 test upon arrival; unvaccinated travelers from the UK arriving via

Eurostar must take a further test upon arrival.

All travelers must also fill out a sworn declaration form before travel; unvaccinated travelers from orange countries and all travelers from red countries must also fill out a certificate of international travel before arrival. Both forms are available by clicking [here](#). For a detailed list of entry restrictions, including current country color classifications, click [here](#).

Fully vaccinated travelers from all locations can enter France without restriction provided they present proof of vaccination and a sworn declaration stating they are COVID-19-free.

Domestic Measures

Authorities in France previously announced a tightening of domestic measures introduced to combat the spread of COVID-19 amid rising infection rates. Masks are now mandatory for individuals over the age of 11 in all indoor and outdoor public spaces, including those regulated by the Health Pass requirement. The validity of PCR tests has been reduced from 72 to 24 hours when used for the Health Pass. From Jan. 15, vaccinated individuals who received their last dose over seven months ago must receive a booster dose for the Health Pass to remain valid.

Health passes are required to access catering facilities, bars, holiday accommodation, cultural and leisure venues, and long-distance domestic travel by plane, train, or bus. Health passes are mandatory for individuals over the age of 12 and staff in many sectors. Health passes are used to show evidence of vaccination, recovery from COVID-19 within the last six months, a recent negative test result for COVID-19; from Dec. 15, a booster shot will be required for over-65s and individuals who received the Janssen vaccine, for the health pass to remain valid. For instructions on how travelers vaccinated outside the EU can obtain a health pass, please click [here](#).

Most businesses and services are permitted to operate, subject to capacity limits and social distancing requirements. Restaurants, bars, and pubs are permitted to serve customers up to full capacity.

Authorities could reimpose, extend, further ease, or otherwise amend any restrictions with little-to-no notice, depending on disease activity over the coming weeks.

Resources

[Government of France Coronavirus Information](#)

[World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)